

Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona

NEWS RELEASE

1110 West Washington, Suite 290 • Phoenix, Arizona 85007 • www.azwifa.gov

Date: June 27, 2005

Contact: Tiffany N. Troidl, Communications Director: (602) 364-1314

\$1.3 Million WIFA Loan to Assist Green Valley DWID With Arsenic Absorption Treatment Facility

PHOENIX – Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA) Chairman Steve Owens today announced a \$1.3 million loan to assist Green Valley Domestic Water Improvement District (GVDWID) to design, permit, construct, supply and start-up an arsenic adsorption treatment facility.

The facility will provide adsorption treatment for two wells and tie a blending system into the existing water distribution pipelines to service the wells. GVDWID plans to drill one new well, utilize one of the existing wells with higher arsenic levels for a golf course, and construct a pipeline between two storage lakes on that course.

"Compliance with the federal arsenic rule is a significant challenge in Arizona because arsenic occurs naturally in soil and groundwater at concentrations ranging from 10 to 200 ppb," said Executive Director Jay Spector.

The GVDWID facility will treat water so that the arsenic level is brought below 5 parts per billion (ppb), well below the new federal standard. Under the new rule, all water systems must reduce their arsenic level to 10 ppb by January 23, 2005.

Since the promulgation of the Arsenic rule, WIFA has been actively involved in initiatives to ease and assist in compliance for water systems. WIFA streamlined its Environmental Review process allowing expeditious review of Arsenic-related projects and as well as provided grant funds to form the state's Arsenic Remediation Coalition.

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ABOUT THE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AUTHORITY OF ARIZONA

The Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona maintains and improves water quality in Arizona by providing communities and private water systems with access to low-interest financial assistance and technical assistance needed for basic water infrastructure. WIFA's funds are capitalized by contributions from the US Congress and the state of Arizona. As a leader in water infrastructure finance, WIFA has become a premier financial institution both in Arizona and nationally. Visit WIFA's Web site at www.azwifa.gov.